un, to wit, that a more satisfactory adjustment might be obtained through the medium of negotiation, this Governbe obtained through the ment would then submit a new proposition, and so resume the ment would then submit a new proposition, and so resume the ment winted it but that if it be refused on such terms as to warrant them in assuming that our Government has determined to insist upon the extreme claim, and to decline both negotia-

fer war to such a settlement may well be imagined; although you may assume it to be certain that when war becomes inevitable, it will receive the undivided support of the British

people.

I believe the Government and people here are quite prepar ed for the re-assertion in the message of the President's opinin his message. Clearly convinced of the right of the United oregon, or to the manner in which it ought to be asserted ions expressed in his inaugural address; and perhaps for a recommendation by him to terminate the joint occupation in the message should be considered that, unless the recommendations in the message should be such as to discourage further negotiation, and to manifest a determination to insist upon our whole right, they would not lead to any immediate measures upon the part of this Govern-peace or war may be involved in the issue. They are a branch pose a part of the treaty making power. ment, or materially add to the embarrassment in which the relations between the two countries appear to be at present In deference to the Senate, under these circumstances, he

Mr. Buchanan to Mr. McLane.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 13, 1845.
Sir Vou will receive by the Cambria a copy of the Pre-

sident's message, and the documents accompanying it, in re-lation to Texas and Oregon. These are all which have ye been printed.
You will observe that, whilst the President has recommend

ed that the necessary notice shall be given to abrogate the convention, he has carefully avoided to recommend any legis lative measure which could in the mean time conflict with its provisions; and it is not apprehended that Congress will adopt any such measure.

The message has been well received throughout the country, and its doctrines generally will I think, meet the approtion of Congress.

The President sincerely desires to preserve our friendly relations with Great Britain. His policy with that and all other nations is peace, so long as this can be maintained consistently with the national rights and honor. The Oregon question basis; and it is clear that, if there should be any me towards its adjustment, this must originate with Great Britain Should that Government take any further step with a view to settle the controversy, the President would judge of the chashould be such as to justify this, he would feel inclined to submit it to the Senate for their previous advice, before taking any other action upon it. As the determination on any such sition might involve the issue of peace or war between he two countries, he would feel it to be his duty to consult way, I could encourage a like result. his constitutional advisers before a final decision. I deem sult might be in the Senate, I cannot anticipate.

The President has received information, from a variety of sources which he cannot disregard, that Great Britain is now making extensive warlike preparations. As her relations with all the Powers of Europe seem at present to be of a peaceful character, the prevailing and natural inference here is that the Oregon question. It is of vast importance that this Government should, as early as possible, ascertain their true character. You are therefore instructed to embrace the first opportunity of bringing this subject to the notice of the Earl Aberdeen in such a manner as you may deem most expedient. It is true that on more than one occasion Mr. Pakenham has informed me in conversation that these warlike preparations between the two countries had assumed their present serious aspect, and had no consexion whatever with the Oregon oneson; but yet it would be satisfactory to receive such an assurance in a more authoritative and authentic form. The President is also anxious to learn your opinion upon this subject with the least practicable delay.

JAMES BUCHANAN. I am, &co Louis McLane, Esq. &c.

Mr. Buchanan to Mr. McLane. DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 29, 1845. Srn . I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches to No. 24, inclusive.

The Senate having unanimously, as I am informed, conter Plenipotentiary of the United States of America at the Court of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, I now transmit to you your commission in that character.

You were correct in supposing that the British Government would again offer to refer the Oregon question to some friendly Power. On Saturday last Mr. Pakenham delivered me : communication making an offer to refer this question, of which I transmit you a copy. You will not fail to observe that he does not propose a reference of the title to the whole question, [territory,] but merely the subject of "an equitable division of it between the parties. It is strange that such a propositio should have been submitted by the British Government in the face of the President's claim to the whole territory, after it had been so recently enforced in the most soleinn manner by my letter of the 30th of August last, withdrawing our proposition for a compromise by the 49th parallel of latitude. accept the proposition under such circumstances would be for to admit that he had committed an error in asserting the American title to the whole territory, and to ac knowledge, in the very submission of the qu stion to the arbitrator, that Great Britain had a right to a portion of it, and that his functions should be confined to an "equitable divi-sion" of it between the parties. In this respect the present ent, which was a general proposition to arbitrate. If no be deemed sufficient by the President. You may therefore vernment could not have anticipated a different result; and, from my conversation upon the subject with Mr. Pakenham on Saturday last, he will doubtless undeceive them, if they had any expectation that his offer would be accepted. JAMES BUCHANAN.

LOUIS MCLANE, Esq. &c.

Mr. Buchanan to Mr. McLane. DEPARTMENT OF STAME,

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 29, 1846.

SIR : Your despatches to No. 31, inclusive, have been duly received at this Department. Having already communicated to you a copy of Mr. Pakenham's note of the 27th Desember last, proposing to arbitrate the Oregon question, I now enclose herewith a transcript of my reply to that note, dated on the 3d instant.

On the 17th instant Mr. Pakenham called at the Department, and delivered me a note, of which I transmit you a copy, renewing his proposition to arbitrate, but changing the erms. This note has not yet been answered. This delay has been occasioned, not by any doubt as to the propriety of rejecting the proposition, but from a desire, before preparing my answer, to ascertain the impression which had been made on the British Ministry and people by the President's message and the accompanying correspondence. I had anticipated a visit from Mr. Pakenham soon after the arrival of the Hibernia, but he has not since called at the Department.

Mr. Pakenbam's last proposition to arbitrate is liable to the ction which was prominently presented in my answer to the first. It is true that he now proposes to refer to arbitration "the question of title in either of the two Powers but yet, annexed to this offer, there is a condition "that, if neither should be found, in the opin ion of the arbitrator, to possess a complete title to the whole territory," then he shall divide it between them " according to a just appreciation of the respective claims of each." If the Government of the United States should consent to an arbitration upon such terms, this would be construed into an intimation, if not a direct invitation, to the arbitrator to divide the territory between the parties. Were it possible for this Government, under any circumstances, to refer the question to arbitration, the title, and the title alone, detached from every other consideration, ought to be the only question submitted.

If not confined to this single point, we should have another compromising award like that of the King of the Netherlands.

But arbitration in any form is out of the question.

The title of the United States to the vast territory on the northwest coast of America, with all its commercial advantages, can never be placed in jeopardy by referring it to the deion of any individuals, whether sovereigns, citizens, of subjects. To Great Britain it would be a distant possession comparatively small value, and which, from the nature things, she cannot very long enjoy; but to the United States it is invaluable. Whilst arbitration is, therefore, out of the question, it is probable that, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, and from an anxious desire to preserve peace, the Senate, if the question were submitted to them, might advise the President not torinsist upon the full extent of our rights, but we could never piace it in the power of any arbitrater to derrive us of a foot of the soil on the continent south | tion of a previous despatch of Mr. McLane relative to a con-

be submitted to the Senate for arbitration, it could not, by ten under this alleged mistake, is not communicated in justice any possibility, obtain the necessary majority in that body. any possibility, obtain the necessary majority in that body.

Upon the whole, the pursuit of arbitration by the British
Government can produce no other effect than to involve the question in new difficulties, and, perhaps, by the delay, renounced in justice and Mr. McLane.]

You strongly express the opinion, notwithstanding the exceptance of Joshua Piccer (a highly respectation) to Lord Aberdeen and Mr. McLane.]

You strongly express the opinion, notwithstanding the exceptance of Joshua Piccer (a highly respectation) to the report of Joshua Piccer (a high tion and arbitration, the Government will treat the offer it ar bitrate as its ultimatum, and abide the result. Of course these opinions are founded upon the observations of the Earl of right to the whole territory; and the debates in Congress and

to lose if they desire a peaceful termination of the conroversy. Notwithstanding all you may have seen in the public papers, the notice, unless I am greatly mistaken, will pass Congress, in some form or other, by large majorities of both Houses, as well as the other measures recommended by the President. pally by the Hudson Bay Company and those in its interest.

That the Ministry would find it difficult and hazardous to pre
Notwithstanding all you may have seen in the public pa-

The President will never abandon the position he has taken their ultimatum. If Mr. Pakenham should offer less, in the hope that, having thus recommenced the negotiation, he might,

ed, it is left to your sound discretion whether any such com- favorable consideration, nunication or intimation shall be made to Lord Aberdeen.
I am, &c. JAMES BUCHANAN. Louis McLane, Esq , &c.

Mr. McLane to Mr. Buchanan-Extract.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 3, 1846.

Str: * * Notwithstanding these difficulties, I still entertain the opinion that it would be in my power, without British Government will suffer it to remain upon its present ission, unless another mode would be more desirable, through its Minister at Washington, of a proposition adopting that di-rected by the President on the 12th of July last, with some settle the controversy, the President would judge of the character of the proposition when made; and if, in his opinion, it tain of it, with our national honor. Of this I should feel quite certain, if I could officially know that the proposition would probably be acceptable at Washington; and I should attempt it informally, and upon my individual responsibility, with scarcely less confidence of success, if, while acting in tha

It is due, however, to my own position, and to those with necessary to give you this information, not that you may make any such suggestion to the British Government, but to enable that the opinions I have thus expressed are not founded upon you to regulate wisely your conversation and conduct in the critical position in which you are now placed. What the re- are rather the result of a series of facts and inferences—entided, however, in my judgment at least, to not less weight

After these observations, I owe it more particularly to my-elf to state that, believing, from the history of our previous egotiations as to the Oregon question, that it may now be settled upon the basis of compromise, and with reference to terests which have grown up during the joint occupation o these preparations look to a rupture with the United States on the territory, without a violation of any duty which a public man owes to the rights and honor of his country, I would not unwilling, taking the Pre-ident's proposition of the 12th July as a basis, to urge a final adjustment of the question acding to that proposition, but conceding to the Bay Company a continuance of the privileges of joint occupa-tion, including the navigation of the Columbia, for a period of en or ten years longer; and I hope I may be allowed to had been commenced some time before the existing difficulties add, that I would be willing to assume the responsibility of assenting to an adjustment by extending the boundary to the Pacific by the 49th parallel and the Strait of Fuca, with free ports to both nations; or by extending the free navigation of the Columbia river for a longer period, provided similar advantages upon the St. Lawrence could thereby be secured to the

> I believe that upon one of these grounds, perhaps upon either, an adjustment may be concluded; and I have a strong conviction that the mode first indicated is entirely practicable. I am, however, constrained, at the same time, to state, from all that has come to my knowledge here, that I have no reason to believe that more favorable terms than those I have above adverted to would, under any circumstances, be consented to by this Government.

Mr. Buchanan to Mr. McLane- Extracts. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 26, 1846.

Stu / Your despatches to No. 34, inclusive, have been re eived, and laid before the President. I transmit, herewith, a copy of my answer, under date of

the 4th instant, to Mr. Pakenham's last proposition to submit the Oregon question to arbitration. Independently of the reason prominently presented in my reply, that the President does not "believe the territorial rights of

his nation to be a proper subject for arbitration," there are other powerful reasons against such a course, which might have en stated had it been deemed proper in a communication to the British Minister. These you can use as occasion may

In the first place, without pretending to know the opinions of individual Senators, I hazard but little in asserting that no treaty for arbitration could obtain the constitutional majority of the Senate necessary to its ratification. Several of the Senators who might assent to a compromise upon the parallel of forty-nine degrees, would not be willing to jeopard by arbi-tration the pos-ession of the harbors on Admiralty Inlet and Puget's Sound, south of that parallel. Indeed, for commerial purposes, the United States might almost as well abandon he whole territory as consent to deprive themselves of these harbors; because, south of them, within its limits, no good other reason existed for declining the proposition, this would harbor exists. The rejection of such a treaty by the Senate would involve the question in far greater embarrassments than consider it certain that it will be rejected. I presume that the exist at present, and would render its amicable adjustment still

2. But even if such a treaty were now ratified by both Powers, the process towards a final termination of the controthis truth. The necessary delay in selecting the arbitrators, n organizing the board, in submitting the proofs and arguments of the parties, would probably postpone the final award Meanwhile the tide of emigration from the United States to Oregon would be constantly swelling, and the danger of collisions between British subjects and Amerian citizens in that territory would be constantly increasing. In my opinion, in order to secure a peaceful, there must be prompt settlement of this controversy. There never was a

question in which delay will prove more dangero 3. I shall merely advert to the difficulty of selecting suitable arbitrators. There would be objections to any of the sovereigns of Europe on account of their intimate connexion with Great Britain, and objections equally strong against commit ting such vast territorial rights to the arbitrament of individuals.

It was for these and other considerations which might be stated that, in the spirit of frankness and friendship, the inten tion of the President to decline the proposition of arbitration, should it be offered, was early made known to the British Government in unofficial conversations between Lord Aberdeen and yourself at London, and Mr. Pakenham and myself in this city. That Government must, therefore, have anticipated the result of its propositions to arbitrate before they were pre-

It appears that in your interview with the Earl of Aberdeen. on the 29th ultimo, his lordship complained of the terms and nanner in which I had declined to accept Mr. Pakenham's first proposition to arbitrate; and "apprehended that, from the nature of the answer and the character of the recent debate in the House of Representatives, it would be difficult to prevent the conclusion that the President had determined to discourage any new proposition on the basis of compromise, and to con cade nothing of the extreme demand.

The view of this subject presented by you to his lordship is the correct one. My answer was not intended either to encourage or to discourage a renewal of the negotiation. The President has at all times been prepared to receive and to treat with the utmost respect any proposal for a compromise which might emanate from the British Government. Whilst he has not deemed it proper to invite such a proposal, he has ever manifested an anxious desire to preserve amicable relations with Great Britain. To accomplish this purpose he would sacrifice every consideration except the national rights and the national honor. Lord Aberdeen has drawn an inference from my language of which it is not, in my opinion, fairly suscep-Of this he will be fully sensible upon perusing the con luding paragraph of my answer to the second proposal of Mr. Pakenham for arbitration. It is there declared that "the President cordially concurs with the Government of Great Britain in desiring that the present controversy may be amicably adjusted. Of this he has given the strongest proof before the whole world. He believes that as there are no two nations on the earth more closely bound together by the ties of comerce, so there are none who ought to be more able or willing to do each other justice without the interposition of any arbi-

der an amicable adjustment of it impossible. The fact is not to be disguised that the teeling of the country is becoming and to the submission, unless another mode would be more to be disguised that the teeling of the country is becoming and to the submission, unless another mode would be more in company with six men of the post, carrying the annual desirable, through its Minister at Washington, of a proposition press or packet a ross the continent. Our route was desirable, through its Minister at Washington, of a proposition press or packet a ross the continent.

cause to change his opinion, either in regard to our title to conclusion of a treaty on that basis. But the Senate, his Besides, in their legislative character they constitute a portion constitutional advisers, are now in session. The question of of the war-making, as in their executive capacity they comf the war-making as well as of the treaty-making power.

They are a deference to the Senate, under these circumstances, he regarded as the best index of the opinion of their constituents. would, in the first instance, feel it to be his duty to submit A rejection of the British ultimatum might probably lead to would a proposition for their previous advice. It is manifest, therefore, that the British Government should at once present render this war successful. Under these considerations, the President, in deference to the Senate, and to the true theory of n its progress, induce me to say what the President would the constitutional responsibilities of the different branches of the United States, in accordance with the terms prescribed in the Government, will forego his own opinions, so far as to its second article. This paper you will deliver to her Britan will accept nothing less than the whole territory, unless the submit to that body any proposition which may be made by the British Government, not in his judgment wholly inconsistent with the rights and honor of the country. Nor is the which of these modes of presenting it will be most in accordance for their previous advice.

Senate for their previous advice.

Senate for their previous advice. Senate for their previous advice.

Under all the circumstances by which you may be surroundgon question on the parallel of 49 degrees would receive their

> you have presented three propositions, either of which you be.
>
> to your own discretion; but I would suggest that it might be made the subject of a protocol in triplicate—one copy of which adjustment of the controversy; and you express "a strong conviction that the mode first indicated is entirely practicable. The first would offer an adjustment of the question on the basis partment. of the President's proposition of the 12th July last; "but con-ceding to the Hudson's Bay Company a continuance of the privileges of joint occupation, including the navigation of the columbia, for a period of seven or ten years longer." The proposition made by the President, to which you refer, was, that the Oregon Territory shall be divided between the two ountries by the 49th parallel of north latitude from he Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean ; offering at the same time to make free to Great Britain any port or ports on Vancouver's upon better terms for the United States. He was content, sland, south of this parallel, which the British Government

The President would feel no hesitation in presenting to the senate, for their previous "advice and consent," this propo-

sition, modified according to your suggestion.

It is necessary, however, that there should be a dear un-It is necessary, however, that there should be a like prierstanding of what is meant by "a continuance of the prierstanding of what is meant by "a continuance of the priers the 26th February last, the President finds nothing to change the 26th February last, the President finds nothing to change rileges of joint occupation." If this be understood as securing the Hudson's Bay Company, during that limited period, no nore than the privilege of enjoying all their existing establishments, together with that of hunting, fishing, and trading arse, similar privileges would be extended to American citito this company which would, in the mean time, deprive the nited States of the power to establish a territorial government over the whole country south of 49 degrees, and to make grants of land south of this parallel. The President cannot, however, anticipate any possible change of circumstances which would induce him to submit such a proposition, if it hould contain a surrender to Great Britain of the perpetual right to navigate the Columbia. A grant of the free naviga-tion of the St. Lawrence to the United States would be no equivalent for such a concession. Indeed, this has become mparatively valueless in consequence of the construction of ailroads and canals leading to the harbors of New York and Boston, which have rendered these the great channels of import and export for the region within the United States waered by the St. Lawrence and its tributaries.

The President is desirous so to adjust the Oregon question as not to leave open any source from which might proceed new difficulties and new dangers, again to threaten the peace of the two countries. If the free navigation of the Columbia notice for the abrogation of the convention of the sixth were granted to Great Britain, this would become a perpetual vigilance which could be exerted, to execute their respective revenue laws and prevent smuggling on either side of the ri- principal Secretary Besides, there are several portages around the falls and necessary to the enjoyment of its free navigation. This own discretion. would introduce the subjects of Great Britain, with their merchandise, into the heart of the country, and thus greatly in-crease the mischief beyond what it would be if they were concrease the mischief beyond what it would be if they were confined to the channel of the river. To estimate the evils which would attend such a concession, we have but to imagine what would have been the consequences had the British Government succeeded in securing for its subjects the free navigation of the Mississippi from its source to its outlet in the Gulf of Mexico.

to submit to the Senate the second proposition suggested by you, dividing the territory in dispute between the two counseek an interview with Lord Aberdeen for the purpose, and tries "by extending the boundary to the Pacific by the 49th without loss of time, finally to execute your instruction." parallel and the Strait of Fuca," but without the superadded mode that may be deemed most effectual. I may add that, indefinite, and he cannot infer from them the extent of your notice to her Majesty in person will not be admissible, and meaning. In case the first proposition to which you refer that, where a treaty may be annulled upon notice by one parshould be made by the British Government, the President ty, the mode of delivering the notice need not be dependent would not object to the term of his offer of the 12th July last, upon the assent of the other; yet, in the present instance, to make free to Great Britain any port or ports on Vancou- do not apprehend there will be any difficulty in giving and r ver's island, south of this parallel, which the British Government may desire." If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire. If the cap of this island should, howment may desire in such cases. their inconveniences.

ther proposition on the part of this Government for a partition of the territory in dispute. he first or second proposition should be submitted by the The Strait of Fuca is an arm of the sea, and, under the public law, all nations would possess the ancily understood. It is rendered the more necessary when special confirmation—the right freely to use and navigate the we recollect that the Russian Government not many years strait throughout its extent. ago asserted a claim to the exclusive navigation of the northern Pacific ocean, between its Asiatic and American territo

s, on the principle that it was "a close sea." From what I have said you will perceive that the third pro-

f the views of the President on this important subject. To what extent you should communicate them to Lord Aberdeen with implicit confidence on your sound judgment, prudence

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant, JAMES BUCHANAN.

Louis McLane, Esq., &c.

Mr. Buchanan to Mr. McLane. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. WASHINGTON, MARCH 28, 1846.

SIR: Your despatch No. 35, dated on the 3d, was received d the 21st instant.

You understand Lord Aberdeen to have stated that if no sufficient encouragement to renew the negotiation on the basis of compromise should be held out by my answer to the last pro-

We have but little information to be relied upon in regard and that, even it were desirable to us to propose to offer one the navigableness of the Columbia river and its branches for the other, he would on no account enter into any negotianorth of the parallel of 49 degrees; but there is no reason to doubt that the modifications should be offered before that the modifications should be offered before the coming in of a new Minister, who, find on the produces, without a knowledge of income burden. We understand that it is by this mode that the only and the produces, without a knowledge of incoming the coming in of a new Minister, who, find on the ground like prairie degs. We end that the modifications should be offered before the coming in of a new Minister, who, find on the ground like prairie degs. We end that the modifications should be offered before the coming in of a new Minister, who, find on the ground like prairie degs. We end that the modifications should be offered before the coming in of a new Minister, who, find on the ground like prairie degs. We end that the modifications should be offered before the coming in of a new Minister, who, find on the ground like prairie degs. We end that the modifications should be offered before the coming in of a new Minister, who, find on the ground like prairie degs. We end that the modifications should be offered before the coming in of a new Minister, who, find on the ground like prairie degs. We end the coming in the produce in the produce of the coming in the produce in the

"I set out from Fort Colville the 21st of September, 1829, nain river Columbia; our conveyance a batteau of four or five Abrodeen, in the conversation to which I have already alluded.

Although I am quite sure that the Earl of Aberdeen has no idea at present of accepting the compromise contained in the President's proposition, it would not surprise me if an arrangement upon that basis should prove acceptable to large and important classes in this country, indeed complained of principal and proposition to this Government, they have not an hour portant classes in this country, indeed complained of principal and the debates in Congress and adopting that directed by the President on the 12th July last, with some modifications not inconsistent, according to the whole territory, and the debates in Congress and their delay to act in accordance with the recommendations of the interior debate in the President on the 12th July last, with some modifications not inconsistent, according to the whole territory, and the debates in Congress and adopting that directed by the President on the 12th July last, with some modifications not inconsistent, according to the whole territory, and the debates in Congress and their delay to act in accordance with the recommendations of the interior delay to act in accordance with the recommendations of the interior delay to act in accordance with the recommendations of the some modifications not inconsistent, according to the with some modifications not inconsistent, according to the delay to act in accordance with their delay to act in a began our overland journey. We arrived at the Boat Encamp-ment on the 4th October, and remained there until the 2d No-vember waiting for the arrival of a party from Hudson's bay," &c. "On the 4th we set out. We were still six in company, five besides myself, all on horseback; we taking the horses of the party just arrived, and they taking the batteau in which we had ascended the river. The weather was still mild, no appearance of ice, and the river reported by all the company remain open the winter through," &c.

In the second volume of Cox's Columbia River, chapter riii, page 162, you will find that there are a number of por I am, &c., JAMES BUCHANAN.

transmitted.

P. S. A copy of the Senate document from which the above quotations are made having been procured, it is herewith

Mr. Buchanan to Mr. McLane. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, APRIL 28, 1846. SIR: Your despatches to No. 38, inclusive, have been

duly received. vention of the 6th August, 1827, between Great Britain and the United States, in accordance with the terms prescribed in of State for Foreign Affairs, after you shall have ascertained transmitted, to be placed on file in the archives of your legation.

As the abrogation of this convention is an act of an impor-tant and solemn character, the delivery of the notice ought to But it is necessary to be more explicit. In your despatch be attested with all due formality. The mode is left entirely should remain with the British Government, another with the Legation in London, and the third be transmitted to this De

In the remarks which you may have occasion to make the delivery of the notice, the language of the preamble to the "joint resolution concerning the Oregon territory" must necessarily be your guide. It is true that the President would have preferred a naked resolution, authorizing him to give the notice; and he believes that, if such a resolution had been adopted by Congress during the month of December last, the controversy might have been adjusted both more speedily and vertheless, with the resolution as it originally passed the House of Representatives : and, in the form finally adopted he considers it preferable to a failure of the measure. However, Congress have spoken their will upon the subject in their joint resolution, and to this it is his and your duty to

It will still continue to be the guide of your conduct. In that despatch I have distinctly declared that "the President has at all times been prepared to receive and to treat with the ut with the Indians, and using the harbors and rivers south of the parallel of 49 degrees, this would not prevent the President from submitting such a proposition to the Semte. Of Whilst he has not deemed it proper to invite such a proposal, he has ever manifested an anxious desire to preserve amicable tens north of 49 degrees, if there be any such north of that parallel, which is doubtful. But no concession could be made sident you may communicate to Lord Aberdeen on delivering

In the present state of the negotiation it is clear that, " the adoption of all proper measures for a speedy and amica ble adjustment of the differences and disputes in regard to sai territory," the first proposal ought to proceed from the British Government. It is deemed unnecessary to enforce so plain a proposition by arguments, as these will readily occur to your own mind, should this become a question; which, however, cannot be anticipated.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant.

Louis McLane, Esq. &c. Mr. McLane to Mr. Buchanan- [Extracts.]

LONDON, MAY 18, 1846. I received, late in the day, on the 15th instant, (Friday,

your despatch number twenty-seven, dated the twenty-eighth of April, eighteen hundred and forty-six, transmitting a August, eighteen hundred and twenty-seven, between the cause of strife and collision between the citizens and subjects United States and Great Britain, in accordance with the terms of the two countries. It would be almost impossible, by any prescribed in the second article, instructing me to deliver the notice to her Britannic Majesty in person, or to her Majesty's most agreeable to her Majesty's wishes, and at the same time rapids of the river and its branches, the use of which would leaving the mode of the delivery of the notice entirely at my I will, of course, execute your instructions at the earlies

power to give to a subject of so much importance that delib The President would also consent, though with reluctance, ration which I am sensible a proper exercise of the discretio ords, "with free ports to both nations." These words are although it is altogether probable that the presentation of the ceiving the notice in a mode mutually satisfactory, and in con-

under the second proposition, then he would consider the question in regard to free ports as terminated. I need not enlarge to you upon the inconvenience, not to say impossibility, under our system of Government, after one or more States shall amicable settlement of the Oregon question, and the nature of have been established in Oregon—an event not far distant—
of making any of their ports free to Great Britain or any versy would be exceedingly slow. Experience has taught us other nation. Besides, our system of drawbacks secures to now to state that instructions will be transmitted to Mr. Pakother nations the material advantages of free ports without enham by the steamer of to-morrow, to submit a new and fur-

> The proposition most probably will offer substantially—
> First. To divide the territory by the extension of the line
> on the parallel of forty nine to the sea; that is to say, to the ame right to navigate it throughout its whole extent as they arm of the sea called Birch's bay; thence by the canal De now have to the navigation of the British channel. Still, to Arro and Straits of Fuca to the ocean; and confirming to the prevent future difficulties, this ought to be clearly and dis-

Second. To secure to the British subjects occupying lands forts, and stations any where in the region north of the Co lumbia and south of the forty-ninth parallel, a perpetual title to all their lands and stations of which they may be in actual osition to which you refer will not meet the approbation of occupation; liable, however, in all respects, as I understand the President, even to the extent of submitting it to the to the jurisdiction and sovereignty of the United States a citizes of the United States. Similar privileges will be of-Thus I have presented a frank and unreserved exposition fered to be extended to citizens of the United States who may have settler ents north of the forty-ninth parallel though I presume it is pretty well understood that there is left entirely to your own discretion. The President relies are no settlements upon which this nominal mutuality could operate. I have no means of accurately ascertaining the extent of the present British settlements between the Co lumbia and the forty-ninth parallel. They are not believed by Lord Aberdeen to be numerous, however; consisting, as supposes, of a few private farms and two or three forts and stations. I have already, in a previous despatch, taken the ble, and are considering only the mode and the time in which liberty to remind you that, by their charter, the Hudson Bay Company are prohibited from acquiring title to lands, and that the occupations to be affected by this reservation have been opportunities enough for the accomplishment of the object will made either by the squatters of that company, or by the Puget's Sound Land Company, for the purpose of evading the afford one, and most probably that on which the change will My despatch No. 23, of the 26th February last, was so full and explicit in relation to the Oregon question as to leave prohibition of the Hudson Bay charter. They are in point of take place. With a knowledge that the change, sooner or full and explicit in relation to the Oregon question as to leave othing for me to say upon that subject, except merely to and used chiefly by the persons employed on the service of to the probable head of a new Ministry to select his own time, swer some of the inquiries contained in your No. 35, which had not been anticipated that, instead of waiting quietly to all the former company, and as auxiliary to their general business of hunting and tropping, rather than with a view, as has been low the Whig leader to select the time of coming in, the pregenerally supposed, of colonizing or of permanent settlement.

Lastly. The proposition will demand for the Hudson Bay ing out, and, with his usual sagacity, so regulate his reti Company the right of freely pavigating the Columbia river. sition of the British Government for arbitration, in such case It will, however, as I understand, disclaim the idea of soverone of the alternatives left him might be to offer a proposition eignty, or of the right of exercising any jurisdiction or police fer going out upon the "factory bill," before taking ground through yourself to this Government. Should the contingen- whatever on the part of this Government or of the Company, cy occur, his Lordship may adopt this course, if he think pro-per. You are authorized to receive and transmit to this De-upon the same footing, and according to the same regulations, ent any proposition made by him ; but in no event will as may be applicable to the citizens of the United States. I to be made, I am not prepared to say that one more objectionthe President consent to transfer the negotiation to London. have already acquainted you that Lord Aberdeen has very able might have been apprehended from a Whig Ministry

the answer that proposition may receive, the ultimate course upon the part of this Government will be defined.

I think it not improbable that if the offer be declined upon which it is understood it was refused by Mr. Calhour, to wit, that a more satisfactory adjustment might to the Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation, it could not, by the Mr. Senset for a ribitation of the wallable harbors were alof their remote stations to their general depot at For the wallable harbors which may have been acquired or have grown up duthe great Britain. Mr. McLane, in Vancouver, and receive their supplies from thence.

For information upon this subjects which may have been acquired or have grown up duthe wallable harbors which may have been acquired or have grown up duthe wallable harbors which may have been acquired or have grown up duthe wallable harbors which may have been acquired or have grown up duthe grown up duthe wallable harbors which may have been acquired or have grown up duthe wallable harbors which may have been acquired or have grown up duthe wallable harbors which may have been acquired or have grown up duthe wallable harbors which may have been acquired or have grown up duthe wallable harbors which may have been acquired or have grown up duthe wallable harbors which may have been acquired or have grown up duthe wallable harbors which may have been acquired or h they may deem an adequate equivalent, what has been hither- belongs at least to the beautiful

to tendered by our negotiators.

In fact, except in the surrender to the United States of the title of the lands not occupied by British subjects between the Columbia and the forty-ninth parallel, and also the sur render of the jurisdiction over the river and the country within the same limits, I am afraid it may, with some plausibility, be contended that there is no very material difference between the present proposition and that offered to Mr. Gallatin by Messrs. Addington and Huskisson, the British negotiators

It is scarcely necessary for me to state that the propoas now submitted, has not received my countenance. I have therefore felt it my duty to discourage any expectation hat it would be accepted by the President; or, if sub

that body, approved by the Senate.

I do not think there can be much doubt, however, that an spression has been produced here that the Senate would ac cept the proposition now offered, at least without any material modification, and that the President would not take the responsibility of rejecting it without consulting the Senate. If here be any reasonable ground to entertain such an impression, however erroneous, an offer less objectionable, in the first instance at least, could hardly be expected.

It may be considered certain, also, in my opinion, that the offer now to be made is not to be submitted as an ultimatum, and is not intended as such; though I have reason to know that Mr. Pakenham will not be authorized to accept or reject any modification proposed on our part; but that he will, in such case, be instructed to refer the modification to his Gov-

It is not to be disguised that, since the President's annual message, and the public discussion that has subsequently ta-ken place in the Senate, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to conduct the negotiation in its future stages, without refer ence to the opinion of Senators, or free from sp culation as to the degree of control they may exercise over the result. Whatever, therefore, might be prudent and regular in the ordinary course of things, I think it of the utmost importance, newspaper. By some mischance he contrived to bolt a live upon the present occasion, if the President should think pro-per to propose any modification of the offer to be made by Mr. Pakenham, that the modification should be understood as possessing the concurrence of the co-ordinate branch of the treaty

to which this Government might be induced to modify the proposition, even if they should be assured that the Senate, up here: and when I did'nt receive them, they were up here Government, the extension of the line on the forty ninth pa effects as fully as by Lord Aberdeen's proposition, but would call Mexican beef, be allowed the option to continue as British subjects, and For my own res which, according to Lord Aberdeen's offer, as I understand it, they would not possess. In point of fact, therefore, the subpresent offer, and those which may be which, at different times, have, in some form or other, pro- made a good use of the money : I gave it to the sick and u

ceeded from our own negotiators.

I have myself always believed, if the extension of the line boundary on the forty ninth parallel by the Strait of Fuca the sea would be acceptable to our Government, that the lemand of a right freely to navigate the Columbia river could e compromised upon a point of time by conceding it for such | rect to the care of Maj. Gen. John I. Lewis, New Orleans. eriod as might be necessary for the trade of the Hudson Bay company north or south of the forty-ninth parallel. Enternining great confidence in that opinion, and deeming it only easonable, I confess that, from an early period, I have used every argument and persuasion in my power to reconcile Lord Aberdeen to such a limitation; and, although I am quite aware that, with a portion of the British public, an importance by no means deserves is attached to the navigation of the Columbia river, and that in others it is undeservedly regarded as a point of pride, I have been disappointed by the pertinacity with which it has been, at so much risk, insisted upon. Feelntended as an ultimatum, I think it only reasonable to infer opinion that, although from a variety of causes-in part, perhaps, from an expectation that in the United States this point arly in view that could be reasonably desired. If the only question upon which the adjustment of the Oregon question epended should be whether the navigation of the Columbia iver should be granted for a period sufficient to subserve all great excitement prevails,) and then we hope to set sail for he purposes of British subjects within the disputed territory, our native land, by way of the Cape of Good Hope. or whether the right should be extended indefinitely to a partiular class of British subjects, I must believe that no English of Canton has died away. Some weeks since, Sir J. Davis statesman, in the face of his denial of a similar privilege to American citizens in regard to the St. Lawrence, would take the hazard upon this point alone of disturbing the peace of on this subject; but as yet nothing has transpired. I think the world. Indeed, if the same Ministry from whom the pre- that a 'Canton mob' has a very strong voice in the Cabinet sent offer proceeds should continue masters of their own proposition by remaining in office until the qualification I am adverting to would have to be dealt with, I should feel entire

onfidence in the belief I have now expressed. I regret to say, however, that I have not the least expecta on that a less reservation than is proposed in favor of the ocmoants of land between the Columbia and the 49th parallel yould be assented to. I may repeat my conviction, founded upon all the discussions in which I have been engaged here, hat, in making partition of the Oregon territory, the protec tion of those interests which have grown up during the joint occupation is regarded as an indispensable obligation on the score of honor, and as impossible to be neglected. I am quite sure that it was at one time in contemplation to insist upon the free navigation of the Columbia river for British subjects nd British commerce generally, and that it has been ultimate y confined to the Hudson Bay Company, after great resistance, and, in the end, most reluctantly. Being so confined nowever, it would be only reasonable to limit the enjoymen of the right to a period beyond which the company might have no great object to use the river for the purposes of their trade. But the interests of the British subjects who have settled up-on and are occupying lands north of the 49th, are considered s permanent, and entitled, when passing under a new jurisdiction, to have their possession secured. This, at least, is the view taken of the subject by this Government, and not at

all likely, in my opinion, to be changed. I may add, too, that I have not the least reason to suppose would be possible to obtain the extension of the 49th parallel to the sea, so as to give the southern cape of Vancouver's

sland to the United States. It may not be amiss, before leaving this subject, to call your attention to the position of the present Ministry. The sucess of their measures respecting the proposed commercial relaxations is quite certain, and the corn bill, having now finaly passed the House of Commons, may be expected, at no reote day, to pass the Lords by a majority no less decisive From that time, however, the tie which has hitherto kept the Whig party in support of Sir Robert Peel will be dissolved and the determination of the protectionist party, who supposed themselves to have been betrayed, to drive him from office, has lost none of its vigor or power. Indeed, it is confidently reported, in quarters entitled to great respect, that they have even offered to the leader of the Whig party to select his own time, and that, when he is ready, they will be no less prepar ed to force Ministers to resign. I have reason to know that at present Ministers themselves believe a change to be inevitait will most likely happen. It will not be long, after the suc cess of the measures for the repeal of the "corn laws," before cour. The "factory bill," regulating the hours of labor, will sent Premier will rather select his own time and mode of goment as to leave as few obstacles as possible to his restoration to power? In that case it is not very unlikely he would preupon more important measures; and, if so, it will not surprise me to witness the coming in of a new Ministry by the end o June, or earlier. With a knowledge of the proposition now the President consent to transfer the negotiation to London. The reasons against this are, in his opinion, conclusive, and positively and explicitly declined to treat of the navigation of the St. Lawrence in connexion with that of the Columbia; be prepared to accept qualifications when proposed by the President, which it was unwilling at first to offer. Upon that supposition it might be desirable that the modifications should of mud, one story high, and have no flooring. They sleep

SOMETHING "RICH AND RARE."

The New Orleans Delta publishes the following corresponthe Hudson Bay Company of freely navigating the Columbia, and that in favor of the British occupants north of the river, proceed from this source; although it is probable that and didnetic. The whole if not trenching on the sublime more or less pride may be filt at giving up now, without what and didactic. The whole, if not trenching on the sublime,

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, SECOND ACDITOR'S OFFICE, JULY 31, 1846 Sin: You are charged on the books of this office with \$1,525, the value of the clothing and blankets furnished for the use of your company, and for which you will be held acountable. In order to relieve yourself from this accounta ty, you will enter on your first muster-roll all articles of clothing and blankets issued to the men under your command, and request the paymaster to deduct the several amounts from thei first payment.

You are also held responsible for the camp and garrison equipage received for your company until turned over to a States Quartermaster.
I am, sir, your obedient servant,
JNO. M. McCALLA, Second Auditor.

Capt. G. H. Tobin,

Washington Regiment Louisiana Volunteers. TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

SECOND AUDITOR'S OFFICE, AUGUST 8, 1846. SIR: By a decision of the honorable the Secretary of War each soldier under your command is entitled to six months' clothing, to the amount of \$21; all over that they are to be charged with. There will be other charges, of which you will be informed by this office. You will please consider this letter your guide, in addition to the one you received from me of the 31st ultimo. Very respectfully,

JNO. M. McCALLA, Second Audito Capt. G. H. Tonin, Louisiana Volunteers.

NEW ORLEANS, SEPTEMBER 17, 1846. Sin: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of two avors from you, one dated 31st July, the other 8th of August I can only answer by a yarn.

A countryman of in ne was once indulging in the very intellectual occupation of sucking fresh eggs raw and reading a

I can only say, sir, that your favors have reached me too late. They have been chasing me through the Mexican post-It is not easy to conjecture, with any certainty, the extent offices; that is, to express myself more clearly, when I receiv-

o less than the President, demanded it. It must not escape and I was down there.

The fact is that most of my men have been paid off, and are scattered to the four quarters of the globe. They were rallel to the Strait of Fuca, as now proposed by Lord Aber- mostly sailors, as I was myself. From them (if there be deen, was actually suggested by my immediate predecessor as charges) nothing can be expected. The camp and garrison one he thought his Government might accept; and that, in equipage has been turned over to the proper officers, with the regard to those English subjects who would be left within nerican jurisdiction by adopting that boundary, he consider- in chopping down those amiable chaparials on the banks of ed the provisions of the second article of Jay's treaty as a pre- the Rio Grande. I except, also, the camp kettles and pans, cedent for a convenient mode of dealing with them. By the many of which were used up in roasting, boiling, stewing, and econd article of Jay's treaty, however, British subjects would frying our pork and beans, bacon, and fresh beef, not to speak not only be secured in the absolute title to all their lands and of the slow venison, which some were ill-natured enough to

For my own responsibility in the matter, I regret, more on without any allegiance to the Government of the United States, Uncle Sam's account than on my own, that I am not worth a continental damn. I have been not only paid, but I believe overpaid by about \$40. My conscience compelled me to remonstrate with the paymasters, but they assured me that they expected to be regarded as most objectionable, are little more made no mistakes—bank tellers sometimes say the same. It is embeddingent of the various offers or suggestions considered their feelings and included them. However, I

paid soldiers. Most of the other captains are in the same fix with myself (barring the overpay) about responsibility, and refer to my epistle as an answer. If you have any further communications for me, please di-

I seldom go to the post office, because I have nobody to correspond with, and yet I am not the man who never had father nor mother, but was "won in a raffle Very respectfully,
G. H. TOBIN, Captain Company D, Washington Regiment Louisiana Volunteers.

JOHN M. McCALLA, Second Auditor.

P. S. I don't know whether to sign myself captain, ex-captain, or late captain. I was a captain.

ing very sure, however, that the present offer is not made or THE AMERICAN SQUADRON IN THE CHINESE an expectation on the part of those who are offering it, not only that modifications may be suggested, but that they may be reasonably required. And therefore I still entertain the were well on board, and we are happy to find that the alarmwere well on board, and we are happy to find that the alarming rumors of the ravages of disease on board the squadron are may not be absolutely insisted upon, and in part from deference to interests and impressions at home—they could not be induced in the first instance to make an offer with such a quafification; yet, if the adjustment of the question should be so soon as the Commodore comes on board. We are bound found to depend upon this point only, they would yield the for a cruise up the coast of China to Japan, and probably to tent to accept it for such a number of years as would afford all Kamschatka. This will be doing what no other American e substantial advantages to those interests they have particu | man-of-war has ever done. We expect to be absent from this place about six months, when we will return, take in stores, remain probably until after 'China new year.' (at which time

had an interview with Keying at the Bogue, it is supposed.

and it will be some years yet before there is free it grass and egress to foreigners. After all, curiosity is the only thing to be gratified; all the shops, and all the valuables that foreigners admire, are already without the walls, and I count perceive any political or commercial advantage which will flow from a privilege to which the Chinese seem to have an inviscible repugnance. I have spent ten days in Canton, and had the gratification of being invited to a large Clinese denner as d sing-song, which I attended. The sing song is theatrical; nen and women dressed in the most splendid costumes, covered with silver and gold, flourish about, brandishing sticks and swords, singing songs that you cannot comprehend, accoupanied all the time by the gong and dozens of other instrunents, little less cuphonious than the first, if that be possible. t seems to resemble the opera, but I could not form an idea of the plot. Upon the whole, it is both ludicrous and ridi ulous; and one might be excited to laughter, were it not for a greater sympathy for the sense of hearing than of sight. The linner was given almost exclusively to foreigners; and I am told that it is the first thing of the kind that has ever come off; and, as it may not be uninteresting, I will endeavor to give you a description. The invitation informed the guests that boats would be in waiting. So about seven o'clack several officers of the Vincennes found ourselves at the foreign landing, embarked, and were soon rowed over the terry. On entering the hall, we were most elaborately 'chinchined,' with gongs and other noise-making instruments. We ascended a flight of steps, and were received by the heads of the family. The tables were arranged about the room after the fashion of the French-that is, each table accommodated six persons So soon as we were seated, the host came up to us, carrying in his hand a metal teapot, filled with warm arrack, (a liquo having very much the taste of rum, and exclusively used by the higher classes of Chinese.) He filled our cups, holding about a teaspoonful, which we were compelled to drink, making at the same time a bow to our polite host. This done, he was free, so far as we were concerned, for the rest of the evening. Now commenced the dinner. There was an and resident merchant sitting by me, and he gave me the name of the dishes, or I am sure I should have never made the a out. I took down the courses, and will give them to you they made their appearance. 1, bird's nest soup; 2, 1 fat, fried with potatoes; 3, bogs' hoofs; 4, mushroom, ed: 5, bird's pest salad: 6, giblet soup; 7, kitten hash; fried Irish potatoes; 9, rat hash; 10, ten; 11, shark's fi 12, fried ducks; 13, dog stew; 14, stewed chicken; 15, h stew; 16, pork stew; 17, fried cucumbers; 18, paré of re-19, feline ragout; 20, ham stewed with pork pig; 22, snail pate; 23, snail soup. I tasted the first do!, and became so disgusted that I could not proceed. They were brought on, one dish at a time, in exquisitely beautiful china bowls, with a top very much resembling a saucer, which fitted into the former-all the time the tables were covered with a variety of sweetmeats, of which watermelon seeds seemed to be the greatest favorite. We sat until 11 o'clock, when we were ushered out with the same ceremonies with which we were introduced. The performances of the sing-song continued during the whole dinner."—Union.

The receipts of flour, wheat, barley, and core, at tide-water, during the fourth week of September, were, flour, 116,630 barrels; wheat, 156,090 bushels; barley, 71,392 bushels; and corn, 66,342 bushels. The aggregate increase in corn and wheat, since the commencement of navigation, over the same period last year, is equal to 688,512 barrels of flour.

CIVILIZATION IN SANTA FE .- A gentleman attached to General Kearney's expedition says, in a letter from Santa Fe to a brother in St. Louis : "This is the most miserable coun-